

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 812

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Everett and Shirley Gossett on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 1958, Everett and Shirely Gossett were joined in holy matrimony by Dr. Willard at the Lookout Valley Presbyterian Church and, since that fateful day, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Reverend and Mrs. Gossett are highly respected citizens of their community; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, lifetime residents of Chattanooga and Hamilton County, both Reverend and Mrs. Gossett graduated from Chattanooga Central High School in 1954; and

WHEREAS, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossett, Reverend Gossett graduated from the University of Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1958 and earned a Master of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Presbyterian Seminary in 1961; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gossett is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Watts; she graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science degree before receiving her Master of Education degree in 1980; and

WHEREAS, for seven years, Reverend Gossett faithfully served as the pastor of the Calvary Presbyterian Church in Eberton, Georgia; he now shepherds the flock at Red Bank Presbyterian Church, in which position he has earned the respect of his peers and congregation for the exemplary quality of his work for over forty years; and

WHEREAS, before her retirement in May of 2004, Mrs. Gossett gave unreservedly of herself for thirty-five years as a superlative educator at Lookout Valley Elementary School, where she encouraged excellence in her students; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced two sons, each of whom has excelled in his particular field of endeavor; they are the proud and beaming parents of Tim and Allen Gossett; and

WHEREAS, the Gossetts continue to stay active and serve their neighbors through service at Moccasin Bend Hospital; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Gossetts' are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Reverend and Mrs. Gossett on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.